

Dear Esteemed Chairs Moore and Abercrombie, Ranking Members Berthel and Case, and Vice Chairs Lesser and Leeper, and esteemed members of the Human Services Committee,

I write in support of SB284. Many across the state support this effort and from all walks of life and political affiliations. From both sides of the aisle, I know of people wishing for kids to have the access to healthcare they had or did not have. Many of us are 1st, or 2nd generation Americans and would wish to no one not to have access to healthcare. Healthcare is a RIGHT.

It is even more crucial to expand husky to all those eligible under 19, as they are the youth of our state and should all get a chance to equally focus on studies, socializing, sports and other activities, but not having access to healthcare and not being bale to participate in those due to illness or other medical issues.

Prevention is cheaper than medicating. As we have people without housing and people without food in our state, the least we can do is ensure that are most vulnerable children gain access to healthcare.

The report mentioned by OHS in their testimony (due in July), should be amended and the date expanded to October 2022, so it looks into the expansion of Husky Access for all illegible, regardless of immigration status. There were already figures being shared with the legislature for 18 and under, as our own caucus, vote counted this effort starting at that age last year.

Please support this bill all the way through the process. Please ensure this bill gets a chance to be called in both chambers and let the votes talk.

Kind regards

Rep. Michel
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